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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO

Sheet

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE** STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary) of

| 7                      | Complete if Known |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/777,954        |
| Filing Date            | February 7, 2001  |
| First Named Inventor   | MINAMIDE          |
| Group Art Unit         | 2192              |
| Examiner Name          | E. Kiss           |
| Attorney Docket Number | 401073            |

|                      |          |                                 | U.S.         | PATENT DOCUMENTS              |                        |                            |
|----------------------|----------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| U.S. Patent Document |          |                                 | ment         |                               |                        | Ĭ                          |
| Examiner Initials    | Doc. No. | Application or<br>Patent Number | Kind<br>Code | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Date of<br>Publication | Filing Date If Appropriate |
| EBK                  | D1       | 5,453,933                       | 1            | Wright et al.                 | 9/26/95                |                            |
| EBK                  | D2       | 6,263,487                       |              | Stripf et al.                 | 7/17/01                |                            |

|                         |          |        | FO                              | REIGN        | PATENT DOCUMENTS              |                        | •   |             |  |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|-----|-------------|--|
| Foreign Patent Document |          |        |                                 | nt           |                               |                        |     | Translation |  |
| Examiner Initials       | Doc. No. | Office | Application or<br>Patent Number | Kind<br>Code | Name of Patentee or Applicant | Date of<br>Publication | Yes | No*+        |  |
| EBK                     | D3       | JP     | 7-295612                        |              | Japan Steel Works Ltd         | 11/10/95               |     | X+          |  |
| EBK                     | D4       | EP     | 875 023                         |              | Siemens Aktiengesellschaft    | 1/16/97                |     | X+          |  |

| OTHER - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS  Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item |          |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner<br>Initials   | Doc. No. | (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number (s), publisher, city and/or country where published.   |  |  |  |  |
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| Examiner Signature | /Eric B. Kiss/ | Date Considered | 01/02/2007 |  |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|--|

A concise statement of relevance is being submitted in lieu of a translation. 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).

An English-language equivalent/patent, or an English-language abstract, or an English-language version of the search report or action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is being submitted in fleu of a concise explanation of relevance under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3).